social security. Let us try to understand that; and a chance should be given to them to join the mainstream of the society. They need some sort of assistance through which they can start their life. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has any such proposal.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, what the hon. Member is trying to say, in the context of Assam and the North-East, is that misled youth are to be drawn back into the mainstream, and whether the Ministry of Finance have a scheme for encouraging that process. The State Government is involved in this, there are other Ministries which are involved in this. Directly, the Ministry of Finance does not have this responsibility.

SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Sir, the hon. Minister has said that no such fund is administered by the Government of India. What is the difficulty in providing for such a fund? There is a lot of demand from the destitute people. A lot of people are finding it very difficult to have two square meals a day for want of money, and they are in dire need of the Government's help. So, what is the difficulty in setting up such a fund to help them?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, I have to repeat what I said earlier that there is no difficulty in providing for a fund. There is already a fund, which is called the National Social Assistance Programme, and there is the National Family Pension Scheme. They are being administered by the Ministry of Social Welfare. The Finance Ministry's role comes in providing budgetary allocation to the Ministry of Social Welfare. They deal with two the Schemes of Old Age Pension and Family Benefit, etc., and the State Governments deal with subject. The Ministry of Finance is not a Social Welfare Ministry. The Ministry of Finance does provide assistance to the Ministry of Social Welfare, but we don't directly deal with the subject.

Storage capacity of reservoirs

*304. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the storage capacity of major reservoirs of the country has come down drastrically due to excessive silting;

(b) if so, the details of the storage capacity of various reservoirs at the time of inception and now with special reference to Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether there is any proposal to dredge the reservoirs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Silting of reservoir is a natural process and provision is made at the planning stage itself for accumulation of sediment in reservoirs. The sediment flows accumulate in the dead storage provided for the purpose and thus the sediment deposition, in general, do not affect the efficacy of the project during the planned life of the reservoir. The studies on Silting of Reservoirs in India have indicated that while in some cases the rates of actual sedimentation are slightly less than that assumed at the time of planning, in other cases it is on higher side.

(b) The details in respect of reservoirs including those in Andhra Pradesh where "Capacity Survey" have been conducted are given in the statement-I (*See* below)

(c) There is no proposal at present under consideration of the Government of India for dredging of the reservoirs.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement - I

Details of reservoirs where capacity survey have been conducted

Sl. No.	Name of Reservoir	Name of river	Storage capacity at the time of planning (M.Cu.m)*	Storage capacity as per survey (M.Cu.m)*
1	2	3	4	5
ANDHRA PRADESH				
1	Cumbum tank	Gundukamma	105.76	84.15
2	Dindi	Dindi	73.83	71.62
3	Himayatsagar	Issa	107.79	79.16
4	Kaddam	Kaddam	124.43	78.179
5	Lakhamvaram Lake	Lakhamvaram	60.42	41.58

1	2	3	4	5
6	Manjira	Manjira	50.94	32.2
7	Nizamsagar	Majira	841.18	332.5
8	Palair	Palair	56.56	55.35
9	Pocharam	Aliaru	16.85	13.067
10	Ramappa Lake	Manair	82.48	79.82
11	Shanigram tank	Siddipet	29.08	26.13
12	Sriramsagar	Godavari	3171.94	2555.48
13	Wyra	Pangdi	24.66	14.88
14	Srisailam	Krishna	8724.88	7101.424
15	Nagarjunasagar	Krishna	11553	9310
BIHAR				
16	Konar	Konar	281.23	209.65
17	Maithon	Barakar	1348	1084.76
18	Panchet Hill	Damodar	1581	1358.09
19	Tilaiya	Barakar	335.83	333.018
GUJARAT				
20	Ajwa	Ajwa	62.7	54.99
21	Bhadar	Bhadar	46.72	35.71
22	Bhimdad	Keri	11.19	6.69
23	Bramani	Bramani	74.95	58.33
24	Damanganga	Damanganga	567	557.56
25	Dantiwada	Banas	464.4	319.32
26	Dharoi	Dharoi	907.88	802.255
27	Dhatarwadi	Dhatarwadi	32.73	26.8
28	Demi-I	Demi	21.52	16.65
29	Fulzar-I	Und	14.9	12.23
30	Ghee	Ghee	13.84	12.61
31	Ghelo(I)	Ghelo	13.35	10
32	Godhatad	Godhatad	14.7	13.98
33	Goma	Sukhbhbadar	18.26	15.91
34	Gondli	Bhadar(s)	11.35	10.11

1	2	3	4	5
35	Hathmati	Sabarmati	160.71	151.28
36	Hiran I	Hiran	21.65	20.22
37	Kadana	Mahi	1543	1473
38	Kaila	Kaila	13.98	8.86
39	Kankavati	Kankavati	14.62	10.53
40	Karjan	Karjan	657.72	580.21
41	Khodiyar	Shetrunji	14.62	10.53
42	Limbdi-Bhogavo	Limbdi-Bhogavo	30.15	22.49
43	Machhu-I	Machhu	83.13	75.09
44	Machhu-II	Machhu	100.55	60.69
45	Madhuvanti	Madhuvanti	12.14	11.65
46	Meshwo	Meshwo	82.12	53.63
47	Moj	Bhadar(s)	53.01	38.94
48	Mukteshwar	Sarswati	41	37.8
49	Nara	Nara	41.06	39.7
50	Panam	Panam	735.8	720.18
51	Pata Dungri	Mahi	41.06	39.04
52	Puna	Sasoi	13.99	9.84
53	Rajki	Malan	12.02	9.23
54	Ranghola	Kalubhar	44.52	36.68
55	Rudramata	Pur	64.78	61.16
56	Sanandro	Kali	12.28	5.24
57	Sarthi	Vartu	10.69	7.31
58	Sasoi	Sasoi	51.02	38.97
59	Shetrunji	Shetrunji	415.41	308.69
60	Sukhi	Sukhi	178.47	164.08
61	Suvi	Suvi	14.28	10.45
62	Ukai	Tapi	8510	7497
63	Vartu	Vartu	13.3	11.7
64	Wadhawan Bhogavo	Wadhawan Bhogavo	18.15	15.48

1	2	3	4	5
65	Washawan Bhogavo (II)	Wadhawan Bhogavo	23.36	20.39
HIMACHAL PRADESH				
66	Pong	Beas	8578.99	7942.43
KARNATAKA				
67	Basavasagara	Krishna	1067.37	922.46
68	Krishnaraja Sagar	Hemavathy	1377.62	1348.18
69	Linganamakki	Sharavati	4435.35	4263.52
70	Malaprabha	Malaprabha	1064.049	985.476
71	Tungbhadra	Tungbhadra	3751.17	3517.53
KERALA				
72	Anaayirankal	Panniar	49.84	34.43
73	Chulliar	Bharatapuzha	13.733	10.601
74	Idukki	Periyar	1998.568	1972.724
75	Kakki	Kakkiyar	454.07	428.78
76	Kallarkutty	Periyar	6.8	6.052
77	Kundala	Periyar	7.79	6.528
78	Kuttiyadi	Kuttiyadi	38.4	27.28
79	Madupetty	Periyar	55.22	48.787
80	Malampuzha	Malampuzha	228.4	208.13
81	Mangalam	Bharatpuzha	25.47	16.5
82	Meenkara	Meenkara	11.33	8.135
83	Peechi	Manali	110.43	79.61
84	Ponmudi	Panniyar	51.54	40.46
85	Poringalkuttu	Chalakudi	31.99	23.833
86	Pothundi	Ayalarpuzha	52.38	49.935
MADHYA PRADESH				
87	Gandhi Sagar	Chambal	7740	7410

1	2	3	4	5
MAHARASHTRA				
88	Asolamendha	Jadam	92.96	62.99
89	Bendsura	Bandsura	13.12	7.874
90	Ekruk	Adelanalla	94.3	67.864
91	Gangapur	Godavari	212.51	163.62
92	Girna	Girna	608.81	559.23
93	Jayakwadi	Godavari	2909.04	2659.239
94	Khadakwasla	Mutha	110	86.08
95	Khaspur	Ulpa	19.82	13.483
96	Kheina	Khelna	12.61	11.91
97	Kolgaon	Palsi	2.87	1.496
98	Mangi	Kanala	33.839	30.404
99	Manar	Manar	138.35	119.624
100	Mhaswad	Man	86.94	41.7
101	Mukti	Motinala	9.68	6.87
102	Nalganga	Nalganga	76.201	71.863
103	Nazare	Karha	16.17	14.633
104	Powai	L.N.	5.45	4.39
105	Ramasagar	Sur	117.18	102.4
106	Shivajisagar	Koyna	2797.45	2779.4
107	Visapur	Hanga	42.76	25.21
108	Yeldari	Purna	934.45	849.5
MEGHALAYA				
109	Umium	Umium	181.42	166.98
ORISSA				
110	Balimela	Machkund	3610.53	3327.98
111	Hirakud	Mahanadi	8105	6145.74
PUNJAB				
112	Bhakra	Sutlej	9868	8477.64

1	2	3	4	5
TAMIL NADU				
113	Aliyar	Aliyar	109.4	106.26
114	Amaravathy	Amaravathy	117.16	100.32
115	Barur Tank	Pannaiyar	7.04	6.86
116	Beijam	Vaigai	2.19	1.8
117	Emerald Avlanchi	Emerald Avalanchi	156.75	150.124
118	Kaveripakkam	Palar	41.73	36.927
119	Krishnagiri	Pannalaru	68.25	50.47
120	Kundah	Kundah	1.534	0.646
121	Lower Bhavani	Bhavani	932.78	895.028
122	Manimutharu	Kilmani-Muthar	159.734	154.41
123	Majalar	Manjalar	13.76	10.63
124	Mettur/Stanley	Cauvery	2708.76	2175.43
125	Mukurthy	Pydara	50.976	34.585
126	Parson's Valley	Bhavani	16.422	11.002
127	Pechipparai	Kodaiyar	150.27	143.81
128	Pegumbahalla	Pegumbahalla	0.92	0.63
129	Perunchani	Paraliyar	65.03	60.243
130	Piilur	Bhavani	44.4	27.13
131	Ponnaniyar	Ponnaniyar	3.39	2.31
132	Porthmund	Bhavani	60.109	47.893
133	Sathanur	Ponniar	243.828	216.302
134	Thirumurthy	Palar	54.8	49.41
135	Upper Bhawani	Kundah	101.1476	97.48
136	Uppar Dam	Uppar	16.2	9.29
137	Vaigai	Vaigai	194.79	172.385
138	Veeranam	Cauvery	40.805	27.744
139	Wallajah	Vellar	2.569	1.671
140	Wellington	Vellar	71.46	55.32
UTTAR PRADESH				
141	Dhukwan	Batwa	106.45	59.03

1	2	3	4	5
142	Ichari	Tons	11.55	7.63
143	Matatila	Betwa	1132.7	763.51
144	Nanak Sagar	Deoha	209.8	189.07
145	Ramganga	Ichari	2449.6	2370.54
WEST BENGAL				
146	Mayurakshi	Mayurakshi	607.7	560.75

**M.Cu.m.-million cubic metre*

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that the rate of silt is incorporated while formulating the project. It is true, sir, in every project, for its promotion, desilting has to be kept in mind. But, what is happening is that more than the contemplated percentage of silting is taking place. That is the problem. Sir, a larger percentage of silting affects the viability of the reservoir. In Andhra Pradesh, out of these two projects; the Sriramsagar Project and the Nizamsagar Project, the latter has more than 60 per cent silt, and the former, which is a very recent one, has more than 20 per cent of it. Ultimately, over a period of time, the communities, which have developed interest on them, are the worst affected. I would like to know whether the Government of India has got a plan to undertake the dredging of these reservoirs.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Sir, we have studied the effect of silting on different reservoirs, but dredging is certainly a costly affair. Dredging of the reservoirs would be a costly affair. Moreover, dredging would create problem in the future because the silt that is taken out will have to be kept somewhere. That will create some problem. But Sir, we are very serious about siltation of different reservoirs in the country. Unless right steps are taken to keep the reservoirs free of silt, certainly, in course of time, the life span of the reservoir would be at stake. But we are thinking about it very seriously and, certainly, some action will be taken in the near future to free these reservoirs from sedimentation and silt.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, in his reply, on the one hand, he is accepting that silting is a dangerous thing and, on the other he says that desilting causes problems. He never comes out with a solution. What are the solutions that the Government has got? It is a burning problem. I

want to ascertain from the Minister whether he has conducted any survey. What will be the cost of desilting? What will be the consequential benefit that the farming community is going to derive? Have you conducted any cost-related survey? What is exactly the Government's thinking?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have asked about the survey. Let him say something.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Kinldy allow me, Sir. In a particular river basin, we will have a very few points where reservoirs can be constructed. You can't construct reservoirs wherever you want. So, if the strategic location where a reservoir has been constructed is totally silted, it is very difficult to get another point where you can construct a reservoir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you got any survey done?

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: While answering to (b) part of the question, I have stated that the details in respect of reservoirs including those in Andhra Pradesh where "Capacity Survey" has been conducted are given in the Annexure. You have already referred to the Annexure. We are constantly monitoring the effect of siltation in different reservoirs. Whenever there is accumulation of silt out of proportion, that is, quite big in proportion, certainly we take remedial measures, but not in the form of dredging. We have taken different measures. We are monitoring the desiltation work. But a situation has not yet reached where dredging is necessary.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Sir, I am sorry to say that this reply is not at all satisfactory because these are the sole educative documents for the Parliament and the people at large. It need not have been said. The question is whether there is silting, how you are going to remove it and whether the silting problem has reached an alarming level. In your reply it is stated that the sediment flows accumulate in the dead storage. Everyone knows that it accumulates in the dead storage. If it goes beyond the storage capacity, it becomes an alarming problem. When was the survey, the study, conducted? In these cases, you have already given the capacity which is now available. When the capacity available is not as per the design, the cases where desilting is necessary and the cases where desilting is not at all necessary have not been specified. So the first part of my question is: When was this study conducted? Were all

these storage capacities assessed at one time? I would like to know whether the silting was more than the dead level which requires desilting. For these particular reservoirs or rivers, what are the steps being taken by the Government? If specific reply does not come and if this type of reply comes, it does not educate anyone.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him speak.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Sir, the siltation problem is being monitored constantly. Whatever the CWC...(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: You have conducted a study. When was the study conducted? When was this assessment made? At what time? ...(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, more than 60 per cent of the reservoir is silted. ...(*Interruptions*)..

MR. CHAIRMAN: He himself agrees to it. ...(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Let me complete. ...(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: What is the alarming level?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Ramachandraiahji, let him say something. ...(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: When more than 60 per cent of the reservoir is silted, what is your alarming level? You tell me. ...(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: All right. Let me reply. ...(*Interruptions*)..

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him reply. ...(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, we pose the questions to elicit the correct information from the Ministers. That is the purpose of the Question Hour, as a new Member, I can visualise. If the Government is not coming forward with proper answer, what to do? ...(*Interruptions*)..

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then, what should we do? ...(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Sir, let me finish. The monitoring of desiltation of different reservoirs and regular work is done by the CWC,

that is, the Central Water Commission, at the Centre. They inspect different reservoirs. Whenever there is something alarming, we refer it to the State Governments for remedial measures. ..(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: The specific question was: When was the survey conducted? ...(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Sir, I would only like to know, in Andhra Pradesh, when this assessment was done. Was it done last year or before last year? Were all these surveys on 15 storage reservoirs done at one time? The date can't be given. Is there no specific time?

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: I have already stated ...(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: I can tell you, Sir, for such reservoirs, there is a specific time. Every two years, there should be an assessment. The last assessment was done on such and such date for these reservoirs. The reply should have indicated that.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Sir, as I have stated, these studies are being done on a regular basis. The CWC inspects different ...(*Interruptions*)..

श्री सभापति: नहीं, वे क्या कह रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान)... अब मैं क्या करूं ...(व्यवधान)... आपने जो क्वेश्चन पूछा वह सही है...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नीलोत्पल बसु: सभापति जी, अपको संरक्षण देना होगा। स्पेसिफिक क्वेश्चन का स्पेसिफिक आन्सर।

श्री दीपांकर मुखर्जी: प्राब्लम क्या है, I don't know. I have nothing against the Minister. My only submission is that somehow or the other, probably he is not being fed properly. In that case, for maintaining the sanctity of the House, the Minister may come again with the correct reply. This is not the reply. I am sorry to say that the House is being taken for a ride. ...(*Interruptions*)..

श्री सभापति: आपका इतना सा क्वेश्चन है। (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Sir, the hon. Member asked when this study was done. I have already stated that this is a regular study.

श्री सभापति: नहीं, रेग्युलर नहीं, In which year was it done?

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Sir, no specific studies have yet been done. But we regularly monitor...

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: I would like to know from the hon. Minister when we studied the storage capacity in respect of 15 reservoirs. When was this done? Is it not a very clear question? Should I not get a clear-cut reply on this? And on what basis has the CWC felt that desiltation was necessary. ...(*Interruptions*).. The technical people are not doing their job. They think that the Members may ...(*Interruptions*).. and they can be taken for a ride.

AN HON. MEMBER: Please listen.

श्री दीपांकर मुखर्जी: मैं तो लिसन ही कर रहा हूं। I want to help you. ...(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Sir, as regards the specific period in which any specific study was done, I have no information at present. I will certainly supply it to the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is all right.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: It is not all right, Sir. With all humility, I want to say that this is not correct ...(*Interruptions*).. It is a very serious problem. ...(*Interruptions*)..

श्री भारतेन्दु प्रकाश सिंहल: सभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि सिल्टिंग निकालेंगे तो उसकी प्राब्लम उठेगी। ब्रिज क्षेत्र में अभी ब्रिजभान कुण्ड का डीसिल्टिंग किया है, गांव वाले उस सिल्ट को उठाकर अपने फील्ड्स में ले गए। इसमें इतनी उर्वरक शक्ति होती है कि गांव के खेतों को उससे जबर्दस्त लाभ हो रहा है। आपको कोई खर्च नहीं करना पड़ेगा, गांव वाले उसे खुद उठाकर ले जाएंगे। यह प्राब्लम नहीं है, वह असेट है? क्या मंत्री जी इस पर विचार करेंगे?

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: It will be certainly considered.

विदेशी मुद्रा भंडार

*305. श्री कृपाल परमार: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश का विदेशी मुद्रा भंडार 95 बिलियन अमरीकी डालर से भी अधिक हो गया है;